IIM centres in the country

1347. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Indian Institute of Management (IIM) centres situated in the country;

(b) whether Government are considering to establish Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh which is the city, having a good educational infrastructure; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) At present there are six Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) in the country, which are situated at Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Bangalore (Karnataka), Kolkata (West Bengal), Lucknow (Uttar Pradesh), Indore (Madhya Pradesh) and Kozhikode (Kerala). The seventh Indian Institute of Management has been approved to be set up in Shillong (Meghalaya).

(b) and (c) At present there is no other proposal under consideration of the Government to set up more IIMs in the country.

Special economic zones for educational services

1348. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA:
SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether after allowing special zones for IT, biotech and gems and jewellery, Government are considering SEZs for educational services;

(b) if so, whether a meeting under the chairmanship of Prime Minister decided that developers of universities and institutions of higher learning should be given special sops and tax exemption by using the SEZ route;

(c) if so, whether any final details in this regard have been worked out; and

(d) if so, to what extent it will be helpful for improving education in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Misuse of funds in the implementation of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan

1349. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether CAG in its report on Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan programme stated that many States misused the funds meant for the implementation of this scheme;

(b) if so, whether many States like Gujarat, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Bihar had utilized funds in performing puja, buying air conditioners, mobile phones, utensils etc. rather than spending in Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan scheme;

(c) if so, whether a report has pointed out that there are still 1.3 crores children out of school at present; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take against the States which have misused the funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MD. ALI ASHRAF FATMI): (a) and (b) An expenditure of Rs. 4.00 lakhs was spent in Gujarat in performing Bhoomi Pujan of Gujarat Council for Education Research and Training (GCERT) which has since been recouped to the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan account by the State Government.

The purchase of utensils for the Mid-day meal programme in schools, out of the school grant funds, was a permissible activity under the SSA, till the Mid-day meal programme provided for the same with effect from July, 2006 in its own programme. Office equipments are admissible under the project management activities of the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.